

7 MAY 1947

TO : Assistant Director, Office of Reports and Estimates

FROM : Assistant Director, Office of Collection and Dissemination

SUBJECT : Adequacy Survey of the CIG Daily and Weekly Summaries

1. All officials who receive the CIG Daily and Weekly Summaries, or representatives of these officials, were interviewed recently to ascertain their reaction to the summaries and to obtain any suggestions they might have regarding possible improvements in these publications.

2. With the exception of the Assistant Chief of Air Staff-2, all persons interviewed consider the Daily Summaries to be of substantial benefit to them. The Assistant Chief of Air Staff-2 feels that the Daily is of little or no value to A-2.

3. Representatives of the Office of the Secretary of State are of the opinion that CIG should not publish a Weekly Summary. Admiral Leahy said that there is some question as to whether there is any need for a Weekly, since it is principally a restatement of what has appeared in Daily Summaries. Other recipients of the Weekly Summary consider it a useful publication and most recipients were enthusiastic in their comments.

C. E. OLSEN
Captain, U. S. N.
Assistant Director for
Collection and Dissemination

2 Incls:

Tab A-Synopsis of Comments and Suggestions
Tab B-Details of Individual Interviews

cc: ICAPS

Copies to:
OR&E
ICAPS (Information) ✓
OC&D

SECRET

SYNOPSIS OF COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

AND SOURCES THEREOF

DAILY SUMMARY

A

1. Dailies are valuable. Recipient had no suggestions regarding possible improvement. (Office, Secretary of War; Secretary of Navy; C/S, Army; CNO; CG, AAF; P&O, WDGS; DEO (Operations); AC/AS-5; SA-E; ID, WDGS; ONI.)
2. CIG Daily is frequently received 16 to 24 hours before State cables on which items in Daily are based. (ID, WDGS)
3. Daily Summaries have improved steadily. (Office, Secretary of State)
4. Daily Summary serves purpose of keeping President well informed. (C/S to Commander in Chief; ID, WDGS.)
5. Policy of presenting CIG comments on some items in Daily is commended. (Office, Secretary of State; ID, WDGS.)
6. It would be desirable to furnish pertinent background regarding some items in the Daily. (Office, C/S to Commander in Chief.)
7. It would be helpful if more War and Navy items were included in Daily. (Office, Secretary of State)
8. Some items in Daily are too technical for presentation on the high level for which the Daily is prepared. (Office, Secretary of State)
9. Sometimes it appears that more attention is paid to "cute" form than to clear and concise presentation of facts in Daily. Excessive use of direct quotations is an illustration of this. (Office, Secretary of State)
10. Daily Summaries are of little or no value. Items are so brief that it is difficult to comprehend what they mean. (AC/AS-2)

WEEKLY SUMMARY

11. Weeklies, as now prepared, are satisfactory and serve useful purpose for recipient. (Office, Secretary of War; Secretary of Navy; C/S, Army; CNO; CG, AAF; P&O, WDGS; AC/AS-5; SA-E; ID, WDGS; ONI; AC-AS-2.)

SECRET

SECRET

Approved For Release 2003/05/23 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003600030016-7

12. Weekly Summaries are valuable but some articles do not develop the subject sufficiently; it is suggested that CIG publish more comprehensive special studies on certain subjects which are now written up in Weekly. (DCNO (Operations))

13. A CIG summary of intelligence on a weekly basis is desirable. (Office, Secretary of Navy; DCNO (Operations); SA-E; ID, WDGS.)

14. CIG intelligence summaries on a weekly basis are not desirable. Events of intelligence interest do not ripen to the point where a well-rounded analysis can be presented on a set weekly schedule. (Office, Secretary of State)

15. The Weekly consists primarily of items which have already appeared in Daily Summaries and, hence, there is some question as to whether there is any need for a Weekly. (C/S to Commander in Chief)

SECRET

Approved For Release 2003/05/23 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003600030016-7

THE PRESIDENT

Admiral William D. Leahy was interviewed and he stated that he finds the Daily Summaries very satisfactory. He said that the President reads these summaries regularly. Admiral Leahy was queried as to whether he had any suggestions as to how the summaries may be improved in order to serve their principal purpose of keeping the President informed of highly significant happenings and developments in world affairs. The Admiral pondered the question for some time and stated that he honestly could offer no suggestions and that he feels that the Daily Summaries serve their purpose very well. It is noted that the Admiral commented that the President receives with each Daily Summary the original messages on which the items therein are based.

B

With regard to the Weekly Summaries, Admiral Leahy stated that although he did not wish to make any recommendation, he felt that there might be some question as to whether there is any need to publish a Weekly Summary inasmuch as it is principally a compilation of data which already appeared in the Daily Summary.

Captain E. B. Grantham, Aide to Admiral Leahy, commented with regard to the Daily Summaries that it might be well to furnish some pertinent collateral data on certain items such as the item which appeared a few weeks ago reporting the assassination of a British Brigadier. He suggested that in this case it would have been interesting to have some information about the murderer, such as the party she represents and any other significant facts about her that may be known.

SECRETARY OF STATE

Mr. J. Borden Reams, Personal Assistant to the Secretary, stated that for about two weeks after taking office, the Secretary read the Daily Summaries but then gave instructions that the summaries be examined and important items flagged before being submitted to him. (For two weeks before going to Moscow, the Secretary's time was occupied fully with preparations for the conference and the Daily Summaries were not submitted to him at all.) Mr. Reams said that he would estimate that during the period he was flagging items for the Secretary, he flagged approximately 2 or 3 items a week. He stated that most of the information in the Dailies is taken from State Department sources and is furnished the Secretary through State Department channels.

Mr. Reams said that he spoke to the Secretary about the Weekly Summaries and the Secretary read the first issue after he took office but that he has not read any subsequent issues. Mr. Reams stated that he personally is not greatly impressed by the Weekly Summaries and that lately he has not taken time to read them inasmuch as the information in them seems to be stale.

Mr. Reams stated that he reads all the special studies, most of which he considers very good and that he has sent many of them into the Secretary.

SECRET

SECRET

Mr. Reams stated that the only person who reads the Dailies, Weeklies, and special studies other than himself and occasionally the Secretary (as indicated above) is Mr. Robert Barnes, Acting Information Officer, Office of the Secretary. Mr. Barnes reads these publications now in the absence of Mr. Bromley Smith who read them prior to his departure for the Moscow conference.

Mr. Reams stated that he understood that because of security reasons and the restricted distribution of the Daily and Weekly Summaries, he was not authorized to show items therein to the Assistant Secretaries. He said he would like to have authority to hand-carry these summaries to these officials and show them certain items of unusual interest which he believes they should see. He said that he would not make any information in the summaries available below the Assistant Secretary level and that the documents would be processed by hand and the security thereof maintained. Mr. Reams was informed by the CIG representative who conducted this interview that the Central Intelligence Group has no objection to his showing to the Assistant Secretaries any items in the summaries which he believes they should see. (In subsequent discussion with Mr. Reams and Mr. Robert Barnes, who is primarily responsible for indicating special items in the summaries which the Assistant Secretaries should see, Mr. Barnes stated that he estimated that there would be two or three items a week which should be shown to one of the Assistant Secretaries.)

In regard to the special studies, Mr. Reams and Mr. Barnes stated that they would like to be authorized to show these studies not only to the Assistant Secretaries but also to the Office Directors who have cognizance of particular types of subject matter appearing in these studies. He said that the studies would be hand processed and the security of the documents and information therein guarded closely. Mr. Reams was informed that CIG would interpose no objection to his making the special studies available to Office Directors under the circumstances indicated.

In regard to the Daily Summaries, Mr. Reams said that he believes that this publication has improved steadily. He said that he likes the idea of CIG making comments on certain items in the Daily.

Mr. Reams said that Mr. Robert Barnes would be better able than he to express comment on the quality of the summaries.

Mr. Barnes, upon being interviewed, said that he has been following the summaries for only about two weeks (since Mr. Bromley Smith left for Moscow). He said that in general he considers the Daily Summaries as satisfactory. He feels that the items in the Dailies are well selected and are of about the right length. He would like to see more material from the War and Navy Departments, - not only new items but also War and Navy political and economic reports on the same subjects that are reported by the State Department. He believes that there would be different shadings in the reporting and that it would be well to integrate the War and Navy reports with the State Department reports. (Mr. Reams, who was present during the interview with Mr. Barnes, concurred in Mr. Barnes' thoughts on this matter.)

SECRET

Mr. Barnes stated that occasionally items selected for the Daily are too technical for presentation on the high level for which the Daily is prepared. He cited as an example certain items regarding Pan-American contract negotiations.

Mr. Barnes said that he believes that sometimes direct quotations are used unnecessarily in items in the Daily. He gets the impression sometimes that more attention is paid to "cute" form rather than to a clear and concise presentation of facts. In regard to the verbatim quotation of excerpts from cables in the Daily, Mr. Barnes said that actually the person who is being quoted is only giving the substance of what he has learned and in an absolute sense the quotation does not pertain to the actual source of the information.

Mr. Barnes stated that he is not satisfied with the Weeklies as they are now prepared. He first commented that he thought the Weekly should contain fewer items and that the items included should be developed more fully. He went on to say that actually he is not in favor of the idea of a Weekly Summary as such. He would be in favor of more special studies of certain subjects that are now written up in the Weeklies. He cited a French political story which appeared in the Weekly and stated that although a couple of days after the story appeared in the Weekly there was actually a story to tell, at the time it was printed in the Weekly the story had not ripened. He said that the essence of this story had already been told in the Daily and that the story in the Weekly contained nothing new except a few embellishments which had appeared in the public press. In general, Mr. Barnes stated that he feels that the Weekly Summaries are not complete and self-sustaining and that it would be much better to handle each item of really outstanding significance as an individual special study, giving it more complete treatment and presenting it when the full story is ready.

With regard to items in the "Trends in Brief" which are not developed into special articles in the Weekly, Mr. Barnes feels that these are simply repetition of items in the Daily. He said that even though they may be selected items reflecting outstanding trends, he does not feel they serve any useful purpose.

Mr. Barnes stated that although the State Department gets out a weekly edition, it is written for a different group of customers than the State Department dailies. He pointed out that the CIG Weekly is prepared for the same customers who receive the Dailies.

SECRETARY OF WAR

Lt. Col. John K. Waters, Aide to the Secretary of War, stated that the Secretary reads the Daily and Weekly Summaries avidly and regularly. The Secretary frequently makes studies of individual items which appear in the Summaries and requests further data on them. Colonel Waters said that although the Secretary has never made any comment, his actions indicate definitely that he is very well pleased. Consequently, Colonel Waters did not feel that it would be at all necessary to query the Secretary for his views.

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

SECRETARY OF NAVY

Captain William R. Smedberg III, Aide to the Secretary of Navy, stated that he considered both the Daily and Weekly Summaries as valuable but not as indispensable. He queried the Secretary for his views and to obtain any suggestions he might have. The Secretary stated that he considers these publications very useful but that he does not believe they are vital in the sense that he could not get along without them. He had no suggestions to offer regarding any possible improvements in these publications.

Captain Smedberg said that frequently the summaries contain items which are not furnished the Secretary through other channels.

Captain Smedberg said that occasionally the Secretaries of State, War, and Navy call one another by telephone and refer to items appearing in the Dailies and Weeklies. He said that some of the more important items are discussed at meetings of the Secretaries.

Queried as to whether he feels that a Weekly Summary of intelligence should be prepared by CIG, Captain Smedberg said that he definitely is in favor of having a Weekly.

CHIEF OF STAFF TO COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

(See report on interview with Admiral Leahy under heading, "The President".)

CHIEF OF STAFF, ARMY

Colonel J. W. Bowen, Secretary of the General Staff, stated that both the Daily and Weekly are good intelligence material, well presented, and are valuable to the Chief of Staff. He said that the Chief of Staff does not read the complete summaries regularly inasmuch as normally he has already received through War Department channels the same information that appears in these publications. He said that occasionally (perhaps two or three times a week) an item is flagged for the attention of the Chief of Staff.

Colonel Bowen said that General Handy and General Hodges read these summaries regularly. Colonel Bowen stated that the Office of the Chief of Staff has no suggestions to offer and no comment to make except that both publications are entirely satisfactory.

CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

Captain Henry C. Bruton, Aide to Admiral Nimitz, stated that Admiral Nimitz and Admiral Ramsey read both summaries regularly. He said that he is certain that they are well satisfied. If they were not satisfied, he is sure that he would have had some indication of this fact from them.

SECRET

Captain Bruton stated that about once or twice a month Admiral Nimitz requests a fuller story on some item which has appeared in the Daily.

Captain Bruton stated that he considers the Weeklies to be very good and that he is quite certain that Admiral Nimitz is likewise pleased with them. He said that the Admiral sometimes reads only the "Trends in Brief" but that he reads some of the Weeklies in their entirety.

Captain Bruton stated that an indication of Admiral Nimitz's interest and appreciation of the summaries is the fact that when the Admiral returns to his office after being away for a period of time he instructs Captain Bruton to bring him the summaries issued during his absence.

Captain Bruton stated that he personally is very well pleased with the presentation of items in the "Trends in Brief".

COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES

Colonel Thomas C. Musgrave, Jr., Executive to General Spaatz, stated that he is very well satisfied with both the Daily and the Weekly and that he has no special comments or recommendations to make. He said that he reviews the summaries in order to flag certain items for the attention of General Spaatz and he mentioned, as an example, that on 5 April 1947 he flagged all items in the Daily for General Spaatz's attention. Colonel Musgrave said that although he likes both publications, he is somewhat more pleased with the Weekly than the Daily.

Colonel Musgrave queried General Spaatz, who reported that he had no special comment to make except that he thought both publications are "very fine".

DIRECTOR OF PLANS AND OPERATIONS, WDGS

Lt. Col. John Steele, Executive to Director, P & O, stated that in the Office of P & O, the Daily and Weekly Summaries are read regularly by General Norstad, General Arnold and Colonel Wood. Colonel Steele queried these officers, who are the only ones who read the summaries in P & O, and he reported back that P & O is well satisfied with the summaries and has no special comments to offer or suggestions to make. Colonel Steele said that although the Dailies contained nothing of which P & O has not already been apprised, they are of real value inasmuch as they focus attention on selected items indicating trends which are significant on the basis of CIG analysis.

SECRET

SECRET

Approved For Release 2003/05/23 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003600030016-7

DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS(OPERATIONS)

Rear Admiral Edmund T. Woolridge, ACNO/Politico-Military Affairs, stated that he is very well pleased with the Daily and Weekly Summaries. He feels that a Weekly as such is a desirable publication. However, he feels that some of the articles in the Weekly warrant fuller treatment and he would like to have more comprehensive special studies on these subjects issued on a timely basis.

Admiral Woolridge briefs the CIG summaries for the Secretary of the Navy. However, he had no information to furnish regarding the Secretary's reaction.

Admiral Woolridge queried Vice Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, DCNO (Operations) who stated, as reported by Admiral Woolridge, that he "doesn't know how he could get along without that book every day". Admiral Woolridge said that Admiral Sherman considers both the Daily and the Weekly Summaries very valuable and that Admiral Sherman had no suggestion to offer except that it might be desirable for CIG to issue more special studies presenting in a more complete manner some of the outstanding summaries which are included in the Weekly.

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF AIR STAFF-5

Major General Otto P. Weyland, AC/AS-5, stated that he is fully satisfied with both the Daily and Weekly Summaries and that he has no suggestions to offer. He said that he likes the Dailies somewhat better than the Weeklies. Normally he does not read the Weekly in its entirety but simply scans the information in it.

Colonel E. J. Rogers, Chief, Policy Division, AC/AS-5, stated that he is very well pleased with both summaries. He said that they furnish excellent background orientation for him and that although he is unable to point to any one concrete item which has formed a basis for his action, as a whole the summaries keep him well informed of the broad strategic intelligence picture. Colonel Rogers said that he likes the format of these summaries, such as the use of a brief sentence at the beginning of an item to indicate the general contents, which is of assistance in determining whether to read the entire item.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
RESEARCH AND INTELLIGENCE

Mr. W. Park Armstrong, Deputy to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Research and Intelligence, said that he is very well satisfied with both the Daily and the Weekly. He said that the Daily rarely, if ever, has any information which is not furnished him through the State Department. However, he feels there is a substantial benefit in receiving the CIG Dailies inasmuch as review of these summaries affords a basis for comparison between

SECRET

Approved For Release 2003/05/23 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003600030016-7

SECRET

Approved For Release 2003/05/23 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003600030016-7

selectivity and emphasis by two different groups of analysts. He pointed out that the State Department daily summary is longer than CIG'S and is slanted to departmental needs whereas the CIG summary provides the over-all national picture.

Mr. Armstrong said that he thinks the Weekly is a very fine publication and that he is in full accord with the idea of presenting intelligence summaries on a weekly basis, selecting certain outstanding items from the daily items, giving some of these items fuller treatment, and showing their significance in regard to possible future developments.

In general, Mr. Armstrong said that he feels that the analysts and editors who prepare the summaries have a fine editorial philosophy and excellent standards.

DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE. WDGS

During the past few weeks numerous efforts were made to arrange an appointment with Colonel Carter W. Clarke, Deputy Director of Intelligence, WDGS, but due to the heavy work schedule of Colonel Clarke, these efforts were unsuccessful. Consequently, it was decided to interview Colonel R. F. Ennis, Chief, Intelligence Group, ID, WDGS.

During the interview with Colonel Ennis, he called in Mr. Waldo Moore, Editor of the Intelligence Review, and arranged for him to query the Branch Chiefs for their reactions to the Daily and the Weekly and to obtain any suggestions of possible improvements in these publications. As a result thereof, Colonel Ennis submitted a memorandum for the Central Intelligence Group, dated 2 May 1947, the contents of which are quoted below:

"The very few persons in the Intelligence Division, WDGS, who have been afforded the opportunity to see the publications of CIG find them exceedingly helpful. They consider that their format, method of presentation, and content are excellent. They are unanimous in the desire that a copy of the Yellow Book be made available to each geographic branch in the Intelligence Group, not only for the information therein, but also as a means whereby the views of CIG may be ascertained."

Colonel Ennis stated when interviewed initially that he was sure that the reaction to the summaries would be uniformly good. Queried as to whether a CIG intelligence summary on a weekly basis is desirable, Colonel Ennis and Mr. Moore stated emphatically that it is desirable.

Colonel Ennis stated "off the record" that five Branch Chiefs (geographic areas and strategic) are permitted to read the Daily and Weekly Summaries. These publications are not circulated outside Colonel Ennis' office,

SECRET

Approved For Release 2003/05/23 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003600030016-7

but the Chiefs are called into his office to read the summaries as soon as the publications are received each afternoon (about 1630 hours).

It is the judgment of this office that Colonel Ennis has been unduly limiting the opportunity of the specified key personnel in ID to obtain information in the summaries for which they have a legitimate need in the performance of their official duties. It appears that these personnel are not given sufficient opportunity to study and digest the information in the summaries. (Mr. Waldo Moore stated to the CIG representative that all of the Branch Chiefs would like to have an opportunity to spend much more time studying items in the summaries which are within their particular fields of interest.)

It is also the judgment of this office that Colonel Ennis is unnecessarily concerned about revealing to CIG the fact that the summaries are being made available to key personnel even to the limited extent that has been the practice. Hence, although Colonel Ennis indicated his desire to keep this "off the record", it is not believed that there is any real breach of confidence in reporting the facts set forth above.

After appropriate consideration by this office, Colonel Ennis was informed on 2 May 1947 that in compliance with the request in his memorandum of 2 May 1947, CIG would send one extra copy of each Daily and Weekly Summary to ID, WDGS and that CIG interposed no objection to his making the summaries available to the key personnel specified hereinbefore. Colonel Ennis said that although it would be preferable to have a separate extra copy of the Weekly for each Branch Chief, a single extra copy for the Intelligence Group would be very helpful. He stated that he would insure that the summaries would be handled in accordance with their TOP SECRET Classification and that security safeguards would be adhered to carefully.

In addition to the substantive comments regarding the value of the summaries, as reported in Colonel Ennis' memorandum, Mr. Moore stated that all of the key personnel whom he consulted feel that the selectivity of items for the summaries is splendid and that each item in the Daily is a well-written precis. He said that the CIG comments on items in the Daily are particularly fine and that the CIG evaluation is of substantial benefit to ID. He said that sometimes, but rarely, the ID analysts do not agree completely with the CIG comment but that in these cases the CIG comment is valuable as representing the evaluation of CIG's experts in the field concerned.

Mr. Moore said that although ID gets copies of most of the State cables on which the items in the Daily Summary are based, they do not get all of these cables and, further, they frequently do not get them until 16 to 24 hours after they have received the CIG Daily. Mr. Moore stated also that ID does not produce any publication similar to the Daily, containing concise, selected items of outstanding immediate interest and that consequently the CIG Daily is most welcome.

SECRET

SECRET

With regard to the Weekly, Mr. Moore said that neither he nor any of the other key personnel have any substantial suggestions. All of them are very well pleased with the present form and content. The "trends in brief" are considered a very desirable feature. One of the key personnel queried by Mr. Moore suggested that in each Weekly it might be well to develop one or two of the outstanding articles and give the subject more comprehensive treatment in the Weekly than is currently the practice.

One of the key personnel queried by Mr. Moore suggested that articles in the Weekly be given a security classification in accordance with their individual merits and that if this practice were established some articles might be given only a Confidential or Secret classification rather than being classified Top Secret.

Mr. Moore stated unhesitatingly that it is his opinion that the Daily and the Weekly, as now prepared, serve their primary purpose of keeping the President well informed of the more significant happenings and trends bearing on our national security.

CHIEF OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

Commodore Charles Rend, Deputy Chief of Naval Intelligence, stated that although ONI obtains copies of the original messages which are briefed in the Daily Summaries, he considers the Dailies as very valuable inasmuch as they furnish the CIG selection of significant events and trends on a timely current basis. He stated that he likewise considers the Weeklies as valuable and that he has no suggestions of any changes that might be desirable in either publication.

Commodore Rend stated that these summaries are read by himself, Admiral Inglis, and a few additional selected key personnel in ONI.

ASSISTANT CHIEF OF AIR STAFF-2

Major General George C. McDonald, AS/AS-2, stated that he does "not feel too enthused" about the Daily Summaries but that he does consider the Weekly Summaries as worthwhile. He said that the Daily is "painfully brief" and that it is difficult and frequently impossible to grasp what is meant by the isolated items of information as reported. General McDonald stated that there is rarely, if ever, in the Daily Summary information of which A-2 is not already aware as a result of receiving copies of the original messages. He said that the Daily rarely has anything of immediate value to A-2 but that he realizes it would be difficult, if not impossible, to fashion the Daily in such a manner that it would be pointed to meet the peculiar needs of each of the various recipients.

SECRET

SECRET

Brig. General Morris B. Harbold, Deputy, AC/AS-2, stated that most of the information in the Daily and Weekly Summaries is of a political nature and hence is not strictly applicable to A-2's needs. He said that probably after Armed Forces unification measures are adopted, A-2 will have desks to handle certain political matters and that the summaries may then become more valuable.

General Harbold said that Colonel James F. Olive, Chief, Air Intelligence Division, is the principal user of the summaries and in accordance with his suggestion Colonel Olive was interviewed. Colonel Olive stated that the Dailies are not of much value to A-2 inasmuch as A-2 obtains copies of the original messages on which the items therein are based. Colonel Olive considers the Weeklies very good. He said that they focus attention on developments and trends which CIG considers to be of outstanding interest, thereby enabling A-2 to keep oriented with CIG thinking. Colonel Olive stated that he is also very well pleased with the CIG special studies.

SECRET